

## FORGING A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

**ABOUT TAPER ROLLER BEARING INC.** Taper Roller Bearings (TRB) was founded in 1972 and began designing complex, tapered bearing assemblies. They built a company with the speed and precision to serve a full spectrum of clients. Today's bearing assemblies are put to work everywhere from precision scientific equipment to assemblies for railroad engines. Based in Lexington, KY, the company employs 23 people.

**THE CHALLENGE.** TRB, being a small manufacturer, was in need of bringing "best manufacturing practices" to all facets of their business. Getting all 23 employees to a place to allow them to see that their opinion matters and their ideas can be valuable is always a challenge. TRB was in need of assistance to bring that "one voice mentality", mentorship, and general assistance to allow TRB to become the manufacturer it has the potential to become.

**MEP CENTER'S ROLE.** TRB began working with the Advantage Kentucky Alliance (AKA), part of the MEP National Network™, a few years ago with assistance to become 9001:2008 compliant. Afterwards, TRB continued with implementing the Growth Management System (GMS) to empower their team and bring structure and focus to their activities. GMS has allowed TRB production area input in their surroundings, giving them the power to implement change and seeing immediate results. Now all elements of their business are incorporating the GMS philosophy, changing the culture of the company to a proactive, empowered workforce.

"Overall, between the ISO and GMS initiative, TRB has realized over \$12 million in impacts from working with AKA in the past 12 months alone. The GMS program has allowed employees to flirt with a business idea, engage their peers for review, and then learn from this process enabling successful projects to be implemented quickly and efficiently."

-Tom Jones, President

## RESULTS



12% improvement of flow in product assembly



\$10 million in retained sales



\$200,000 in cost savings



\$350,000 in increased investment



Cost avoidance of \$25,000

## CONTACT US



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